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SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR PROCESSING NETWORK PACKET FLOWS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

   A system and method provides a broadband network
node for a best effort network such as the Internet or
intranets which supports the inexpensive and rapid
5   deployment of services to the best efforts network.
Separate data path and control path mechanisms allow
high-speed data transfers with parallel processing flows
for the data path that are controlled across data flows
by the control path. Packets are classified, modified
10   and shaped to enable the service on the network with an
accountant to track packet traffic for control and
billing purposes. A series of processing blades perform
a modification function for each blade that processes
packets according to classifications. The processing
15   blades are modular and scalable for insertion in the
broad band switch to rapidly adapt the broadband network
node for new services.